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U.S. Denies Report On Brandt-CIA Tie

Associated Press

The State Department said yesterday allegations by columnist Jack Anderson that former West German chancellor Willy Brandt worked for the Central Intelligence Agency in the 1950s "have no basis in truth."

Anderson made the allegations in two columns published in U.S. newspapers this week. He said intelligence sources have disclosed that Brandt may have sold information to the Soviet Union's KGB as well.

In a written statement, the State Department said previous articles in the German and American press about Brandt's alleged CIA ties have proven to be untrue.

"They repeat rumors, hearsay and pure fabrication," the department said. "They have no basis in truth and seem designed primarily to enhance the reputation of the unnamed sources, who do not have the courage to present their claims openly for public scrutiny."